



INDIANA CAREER MAJORS

Special Interest Articles:

- PLTW to add Biotech Course
- Central Indiana AOF Incorporates
- History of Indiana Career Majors

Individual Highlights:

- Academy News 2
- Career Majors Academy 3
- Send us your stories 4

Department of Workforce Development Education & Training 317-233-5663

DWD Awards Nineteen Career Majors/Tech Prep Grants

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development awarded \$2,358,619.00 over two years to 19 Indiana high school/post-secondary consortiums to improve academic achievement and increase the development of skills for high-skill/ high-demand/high-wage occupations. The Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act funds will help high schools and post-secondary institutions design career pathways that help students easily transition from high school to post-secondary options.

The following schools were funded:

- Ben Davis High School
- Borden Jr./Sr. High School
- Central Nine Career Center
- Century Career Center
- Columbus Area Career Connection
- Heritage Jr./Sr. High School

- Heritage Hills High School
- Jefferson High School
- Kokomo High School
- Leo Jr./Sr. High School
- Loogootee Jr./Sr. High School
- Lowell High School
- McKenzie Career Center
- New Castle Area Vocational School
- Northwest High School
- Owen Valley High School
- Penn High School
- Pike High School
- Portage High School
- Silver Creek Jr. Sr. High School

All funded consortia are eligible for implementation funding for year two. Applications will be available in early spring.

Inservice to be held on October 21 at The Fountains in Carmel

Mark your calendars for October 21, 2003. That is the date of the first inservice for Career Majors schools.

You will be hearing from some of the implementation schools to learn more about their journey to Career Majors. You will meet MGT, a group that will be helping us with evaluating our efforts. You will also learn about data collection, fiscal information,

professional development opportunities and expectations for the second round of grants. We also want to hear from you and for you to meet the other schools and share information. Each school should send at least two representatives to this inservice. A draft agenda, registration form and maps have been sent through e-mail to school contacts.



*"The AOF Program
is a life changing
experience...."*

*Jeff Crew,
Wabash College*

Academy of Finance of Central Indiana Incorporates

A Regional Advisory Board for the Central Indiana Academy of Finance has incorporated. Their next goal is to start a fundraising effort and raise \$500,000.

The Board includes members from Charles Schwab & Co., Travelers Insurance, JIST Publishing, National Bank of Indianapolis, Primerica Financial Services, University of Indianapolis, and several others. The mission statement of the group is "Preparing Indiana's youth for the challenges of tomorrow in their academic, personal, and professional lives through partnership with our financial and business communities."

The Board is corporate driven, and has already succeeded in partnering with the University of Indianapolis so that seniors can take a class at U of I and receive both high school and college credit.

Jeff Crew, a junior at Wabash College says of the program "The AOF Program is a life changing experience, one that will engage the mind towards financial independence and sense of business savvy for America's business leaders of tomorrow."

In Indiana, we have twelve AOF programs with over 500 students participating. Nationally, there are over 500 NAF programs; 275 of which are Academies of Finance. Career Majors Schools with NAF programs include: Borden High School, Leo Jr./Sr. High School, McKenzie Career Center, Northwest High School, Pike High School, and Portage High School. Silver Creek High School is in the planning stages for adding a Finance Academy next year.

To learn more about AOF programs worldwide, visit WWW.NAF.ORG.

Project Lead the Way to add a Biotechnical engineering course

PLTW is breaking into the booming Biotech field with the help of a grant from the Indiana Department of Education to pilot a high school course in Biotechnical engineering.

PLTW will oversee the development of the subject matter, teacher training and evaluation for a full year class to be added to PLTW's high school curriculum. The project will unfold in four phases:

Phase One will identify concepts, content, themes and assessment strategies. Phase two will focus on daily class activities, benchmarks, and alignment with standards of national education organizations such as the National Council of the Teachers of Mathematics and the National Academy of Science. Phase three will create a comprehensive training model for high

school teachers and phase four will involve training teachers from six pilot high schools. Teacher training for these six sites will be at IUPUI in the summer of 2004.

Biotechnology Engineering will become the seventh class widely available to PLTW schools in the fall of 2005.

Statewide, there are 37 PLTW high schools and 24 middle schools using the PLTW curriculum. Nationwide, there are over 600 schools. Career Majors schools using PLTW pre-engineering curriculum include Century Career Center, Kokomo, Leo Jr./Sr. High School, McKenzie Career Center, Owen Valley, Penn, Pike, and Portage High Schools. For more information, check out their website at www.pltw.org or www.pltw.purdue.edu.





A History of DWD's Indiana Career Majors

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) started working with schools that were interested in creating Career Majors in 1999. A competitive application was released for interested schools and our first eight pilot schools were selected. Start up funds were not large, \$7,500 for planning and \$17,500 for implementation of the Career Majors.

Six of the eight schools made it through the planning stage and received implementation funds. Five of these schools: Borden, Leo, Northwest, Pike and Portage are continuing that work today.

Many wonderful things have happened since the inaugural grant. Pike High School went to wall-to-wall academies last year with great success. Portage High School had a Health Care facility added on to the school due to their Health Academy. The students and the entire community benefit from this new

addition. Also, Portage went to wall-to-wall academies this year. And Indianapolis Public Schools received a \$2,200,000 Smaller Learning Communities grant from the federal government and over \$5,000,000 from the Gates Foundation to continue this work. Other schools, including Pike High School, are hoping to receive good news soon from the latest round of Smaller Learning Communities grants.

The benefits of this initiative to students, teachers and the community are great. Students have a focus for the future and a plan to get there. They find more relevance in their schoolwork, they try harder, and they take more rigorous classes. They participate in internships to better understand the world of work and narrow down their area of interest. Teachers are able to collaborate with each other and community members. And employers have access to the energy and creativity of their future workers.



DWD to Host the Fourth Indiana Career Majors Academy in March

DWD is making plans for the fourth Career Majors Academy. The Academy concept combines professional development and concentrated planning time to help school/consortium teams move forward faster and more effectively in their school improvement plans. It is a two-day event focused on the development of strategic action plans to support a goal, in this case improving education through the implementation of Career Majors.

There are five main components to the Academy. The first is teams. Five to ten key stakeholders attend the Academy as a team. They work in individual teams for a majority of the two-day Academy. The second is trained facilitators, one for each team. The third component is content faculty, providing just-in-time technical assistance to teams. The

fourth is a product, a tangible "take home" action plan as a result of the Academy planning process. And the fifth is evaluation/follow-up, to ensure continuing work and implementation of the plan.

Teams will hear briefly from 10-12 content faculty, which are practitioners in Career Majors. They will choose several people from this group to come into their team planning session to talk with them about practical knowledge and lessons learned as it relates to their individual school.

The Career Majors Academy will be discussed at the inservice on October 21. Please talk to the other schools about their experiences at the previous academies. The five original sites (Borden, Leo, Northwest, Pike and Portage) have been to all three previous academies and can tell you what to expect from this experience.

*"Excellent design
and our facilitator
was outstanding.
WOW, he kept us
on task."*


*2002 Academy
Participant*



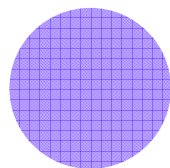
Send Us Your Stories

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.in.gov/dwd/

The purpose of this monthly newsletter is to share information between the twenty Career Majors schools and their consortium members. All of you have many different good things going on and your own specialty areas that you are excelling at in your school and consortium. Please send any success stories and if possible, digital pictures to Terri Schulz at tschulz@dwd.state.in.us.

Stories that include data are very exciting.

We will try to incorporate these success stories into the newsletter so you can see what the other schools are doing. Be sure to send contact information in the form that you would most like other schools to contact you for additional information.

Thank you in advance for your help in getting these wonderful success stories to us.

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